

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## WORKING FAMILIES NEED HEALTH PLANS THAT WORK

**HON. SAM GEJDENSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 12, 1999*

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, at long last, the House of Representatives has passed legislation to inject some accountability into the managed care industry. Serious debate to reform health care in this country was long overdue. We could no longer wait for another person to die from lack of care or another doctor to be reprimanded by an HMO for discussing all available treatment options with a patient before taking steps towards change.

Right now, we have a system where HMOs make more money when they deliver less care. To stop the abuses that HMOs inflict on their patients and to make health care more affordable, we have to ensure that patients and their doctors, not accountants, have control of the health care system. That is why it was so important to pass the Patient's Bill of Rights. This bipartisan legislation, which I supported, remedies a number of the problems with an HMO system that currently values profits over patient care.

Access to medically needed care, including access to emergency rooms and specialists, is a fundamental element of the Patient's Bill of Rights. This legislation will also ban gag rules on physicians and end some HMOs' practice of offering financial incentives to withhold necessary treatment. This bill will guarantee timely internal appeals, as well as an independent external appeals process, when plans deny care. Finally, the Patient's Bill of Rights holds plans legally accountable when their profit-drive decisions result in serious injury or death. People need real ways to hold HMOs responsible.

Unlike the Patient's Bill of Rights, the Republican substitutes prohibit patients from suing HMOs when care is improperly denied. In too many instances, courts are the only advocate that consumers have in their battles with multi-billion dollar companies. The health insurance industry, which makes \$952 billion a year, does not need protection from lawsuits. When one of your family members dies because an HMO denies access to proper care, the Republican substitutes' only recourse is an external appeal—that's too little, too late. No other industry enjoys such a powerful, Congressionally-mandated shield from liability for their negligence. By rejecting the Republican substitutes, Congress demonstrated that it's time to remove protections for health plans and focus on providing more protections for patients.

We must create a better system for everyone who gives or receives health care in this country. The people who make America work deserve health plans that work for them and their families. By passing the Patient's Bill of Rights, we have taken our first step towards real reform.

## TRIBUTE TO FRANK E. FIORILLI UPON RETIREMENT FROM CECOM, FORT MONMOUTH

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 12, 1999*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the achievements and contributions of Mr. Frank E. Fiorilli, Deputy for Business and Strategic Planning for the Army's Communications-Electronics Command (CECOM) at Fort Monmouth, NJ.

Mr. Fiorilli is retiring after 34 years and a luncheon in his honor will be held on October 27. This will be a special occasion for a very special individual—one of those talented civil service managers in whom we invest our faith and trust to successfully carry out an important national security responsibility.

Mr. Fiorilli began his distinguished career as a presidential intern in 1965. Born in Newark, NJ, he received a bachelors degree cum laude from Rutgers in 1965. He has been serving his country ever since.

The principal function of CECOM at Fort Monmouth is to ensure that our soldiers in the field have advanced communications equipment that will protect them and contribute to the success of their battlefield mission. We have been fortunate over the years to have, at Fort Monmouth, highly skilled engineers and other professionals who develop and procure this equipment—a critical component of our military's worldwide success.

Frank Fiorilli has established the foundation for the Army to adequately and properly provide advanced communications equipment for the "Army After Next." He has done this with a combination of creativity and organizational skill that we should honor and encourage in all our senior Federal managers. I congratulate Mr. Fiorilli and wish him a well-deserved and fulfilling retirement.

## TRIBUTE TO DR. D. JAMES KENNEDY, A TRUE CHRISTIAN STATESMAN

**HON. WALTER B. JONES**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 12, 1999*

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, it is clear when reading both the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States, that our Founding Fathers recognized the important role that God and the Bible would play in guiding our Nation's leaders who governed the world. Today, it is becoming clear that the Judeo-Christian principles this nation was founded upon are as critical to the future progress and stability of this nation as they have been in the past. In fact, the 18th President of the United States, Ulysses S. Grant, emphasized the important

relationship between the Bible and the freedom that you and I enjoy today. He said, (and I quote) "Hold fast to the Bible as the sheet anchor of your liberties; write its precepts on your heart and practice them in your lives. To the influence of this Book we are indebted for the progress made, and to this we must look as our guide in the future."

Mr. Speaker, there is a man of Christian faith, a leader within our society today who is working to remind you and I to keep this same spirit of faith and freedom alive. That man is Dr. D. James Kennedy, a true Christian statesman. Mr. Speaker, when I was elected in 1994 to represent the citizens of Eastern North Carolina, Dr. Kennedy presented every newly elected Member with a copy of the New Geneva study Bible. In the front cover is a note stating his hope that we would read and apply the messages we found in the scripture to our work and our daily lives—just as Ulysses Grant proposed. Mr. Speaker, I begin and end each day on my knees in prayer. I pray for guidance in the decisions I make that affect the American people. In the last 5 years, I have often reached for the Bible that Dr. Kennedy gave to me for inspiration, encouragement, and a sense of hope.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Kennedy embodies the ideal of Christian statesmanship. In fact, he has dedicated his life to celebrate and share God's word. In 1959, he became the founding pastor of the Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church in Florida. This year, as the church celebrates its 40th anniversary, Dr. Kennedy is the most widely listened-to Presbyterian minister in the world. His broadcast messages are televised to 35,000 cities and towns across the United States. But Dr. Kennedy's commitment to evangelism and strengthening our nation's communities extends well beyond his role as senior minister to Coral Ridge Church. In 1962, he created a lay-witnessing program called Evangelism Explosion International, which is used in every nation to encourage growth in congregations around the world.

Dr. Kennedy also founded the Westminster Academy in 1971 to provide quality Christian education for the citizens of Fort Lauderdale, Florida. In addition, he started Knox Theological Seminary in 1990, which now offers courses in the United States as well as in Seoul, Korea. Mr. Speaker, last fall I had the unique opportunity to participate and see first hand, Dr. Kennedy's efforts to encourage and motivate people of faith. Coral Ridge Ministries is the television and radio outreach of Dr. Kennedy's word, which this year celebrates its 25th anniversary. One of the television programs his ministry airs is called "The Power of One." The program recognizes individuals in our Nation's communities who are working to promote Christian values. One such person is Rebecca Mason, a 10-year old girl from the Third District of North Carolina, which I am proud to represent. Rebecca became frustrated with the state of our country after learning some frightening facts about the rate of crime and violence in our Nation's neighborhoods. Rebecca could not understand why

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

more people of faith were not taking action, so she decided to do something about it. She created a petition for Christian values, calling upon all Americans to stand up and take action to promote and preserve the morals and values we learn from the Bible. Rebecca's efforts were featured on Dr. Kennedy's "Power of One" program. As a man of strong religious conviction myself and as Rebecca's Congressman, I was asked to participate in the program. It was an honor for me to be part of a television program that recognizes the citizens who are taking action to make their communities and their nation stronger. In fact, it reminded me of one of my favorite Bible verses from Isaiah book 6, verse 8. It says, "Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me."

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Kennedy, like Rebecca Mason, has answered God's call, and he has devoted his life to serving as a messenger of God's word. Today, I am proud to recognize his efforts during this exciting year of celebration to show my respect for his devotion and his commitment to spread the message of hope to all America. Thank you Dr. Kennedy, for reminding those of us who serve the American people—and all citizens—that faith and freedom go hand in hand. Happy anniversary. May God continue to Bless you and give you the strength to continue sharing His message with the world.

#### 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GHENT BAND

#### HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 12, 1999*

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Ghent Band on their 100th anniversary in entertaining the communities of Columbia County, located in the heart of the 22nd Congressional District, which I proudly represent.

Founded in 1899 by 15 members, the Ghent Band continues to make history while other bands in New York have become history. Inspired by nationally touring bands like John Philip Sousa, the original 15 members gathered old, second hand instruments and began rehearsing weekly at the Old Ghent School House. To this day, the band plays on, serving as Columbia County's only full-fledged village band.

Mr. Speaker, for a full century the Ghent Band's music has filled the hearts of the young and old, creating lasting memories at the many parades and concerts at which they play. The Ghent Band holds a special place in my own heart as they were present at the inauguration celebrating my swearing in to the House of Representatives.

Given the diversity of age and background of the band's members, as well as their strong ties to the local community, I have no doubt that the Ghent Band will continue on for an additional 100 years.

Mr. Speaker, the Ghent Band is America at its best, representing all that is good in this nation. I wish its members and their families the best as they celebrate 100 years of serving and entertaining the Village of Ghent.

#### BIPARTISAN CONSENSUS MAN- AGED CARE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

#### HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 6, 1999*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2723, the bipartisan consensus Managed Care Improvement Act. This important piece of legislation is long overdue and I am pleased to be a cosponsor of this bipartisan bill that will reform the managed care industry. I commend Mr. NORWOOD and Mr. DINGELL for their diligent work and determination in bringing this bill to the floor today and the House leadership for scheduling debate on this bill.

H.R. 2723, will bring about necessary changes to the managed care industry by bringing the attention of HMOs back to the needs of the American public. For too long, these insurance companies have been driven by profits and have lost sight of their true responsibility, to provide a quality service to those Americans who pay for insurance each month. All too often we hear stories from our constituents who have had numerous conflicts with their insurance companies, ranging from denial of coverage for preventative procedures and medically necessary treatments to denial of reimbursement for trips to emergency rooms and specialists. Americans pay their monthly premiums and expect that if the time comes when they need to seek out medical assistance, they should not have to worry about whether or not their HMO is going to oppose the necessity of their visit to a doctor.

Americans should be able to see specialists such as a cardiologist or oncologist without obtaining a referral from their primary physician, a chore which merely takes up time, time that may be better served by immediately seeing a specialist. Moreover, women should have direct access to their obstetrician-gynecologist and parents should have the option to select a pediatrician as their child's primary physician. Under current guidelines, this is not an option. However, these issues would be addressed by the passage of H.R. 2723.

The major concern that has been brought to my attention by my constituents has been the issue of employer liability. I am gratified that this bill contains a self-executing managers amendment that will directly address this concern. With the passage of H.R. 2723, language will be implemented which clearly states that an employer can not be held liable unless they are making medical decisions. An employer can provide health care coverage for their employees and set the parameters of that coverage with the knowledge that they will not be sued by an employee should the HMO make a negligible medical decision that results in injury or death.

The intent of this legislation is to make managed care coverage more user friendly. To provide the necessary information to policyholders up front so that the frequency of injuries and deaths due to negligent decisions by the HMO decreases. However, there will be times when an HMO fails to provide coverage for services that a policy holder is entitled to. It is for these cases, that the individual has the ability to hold the HMO accountable for its

negligent decisions. In cases of personal injury or death, the individual deserves the right to sue the insurance company and hold them financially responsible for their irresponsible decisions. It is for this reason that I strongly support the liability portion of this bill.

I am confident that by requiring health plans to disclose information to policyholders regarding coverage of benefits, doctors, facilities, and claim procedures, the need to proceed to a judicial solution should not occur as often as opponents of this bill insist.

Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to stand up and fight for the rights of the American public and to support passage of this legislation.

#### VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER IN GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO HONORED

#### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 12, 1999*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to honor not one individual but a team who has dedicated their time, effort, and care into making the smallest VA hospital in the Country, the best. The employees of the Grand Junction VA hospital have changed health care in this country as we know it. Their unparalleled care for the patient has won them the Department of Veterans Affairs highest honor.

The Robert W. Carey Quality Award trophy is given to one facility each year to recognize organizational effectiveness and performance through quality management. It was the first time that the hospital submitted the entry form which was fifty pages long and took five months to process. The employees of the Grand Junction VA hospital patiently waited to hear back while a Department of Veteran Affairs panel reviewed applications. Soon after a panel visit to the hospital and a final ranking decision by a panel of outside judges, they were chosen for the award.

The basis for their winning the award are numerous and well founded. Among them, their work in the revolutionary, primary-care approach to health care that began in 1988. They call it a "virtual circle of care" in which patients see the same physician, nurse, clerk, and social worker each time they visit the hospital. This allows for more personalized care which pays off on a large scale. Health care providers become familiar with the patients they see, therefore providing outstanding, personalized service to them. Also recognized was their work on the Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic, which brings veterans to Crested Butte every weekend.

In addition to these accolades, Mr. Speaker, I would like to add a few final highlights. The administration's attention to the needs of the employee is another facet that makes this hospital so exceptional. They are constantly looking for ways to improve, including their anonymous e-mail system that allows employees to voice any concerns they might have or suggest any improvements they see necessary. Their volunteer program has also grown tremendously. People are getting involved to make a difference and they have.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I honor this institution, on behalf of the people of Western

Colorado, for their accomplishments in the health care of our nation's veterans and say thank you for their care and hard work.

#### TRIBUTE TO FRANK FARRELL

#### HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 12, 1999*

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of Massachusetts' finest leaders, Frank Farrell. Frank is retiring this year after many years as President of the Worcester/Framingham Central Labor Council. I know that thousands of working families throughout Central Massachusetts join me in thanking Frank Farrell for his years of hard work and dedication.

Since 1955, when he was hired as a quality control inspector at Olson Manufacturing in Worcester, Frank Farrell has been a member of the United Steelworkers of America. He has very active in his local union and rose to its presidency in 1965.

He has also been active in the Worcester/Framingham Central Labor Council, and was elected as its president in 1970—a post he has held for the last 20 years. For those 20 years Frank has fought the good fight—he has stood shoulder-to-shoulder with the men and women in organized labor and their families. He has advocated for better wages, better health care, better retirement and better working conditions. Central Massachusetts is a better and safer place to work today because of the hard work put in by Frank Farrell.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute to Frank; his wife Jan; their 3 children Frank III, Steven and Lisa; and their two grandchildren Bernard and Meressa. I wish them best wishes for a happy and healthy retirement. No one deserves it more.

#### CYPRUS PEACE TALKS

#### HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 12, 1999*

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate President Clinton and Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit on the significant progress made on the subject of Cyprus during their recent talks in Washington.

I have always felt that Cyprus presents an exceptional opportunity for the United States to facilitate a successful solution because a settlement on this island is within reach. Cyprus is small in size and population, has clearly discreet borders as an island nation, and the international community is committed to the removal of Turkish forces and return of Cypriot sovereignty. Many United Nations and United States Congressional resolutions have been passed over the years expressing the internal community's and United States' commitment to a just and peaceful resolution to this conflict. Failure to secure a solution in Cyprus would undermine international law and UN resolutions, as well as contradicting official U.S. foreign policy, and our national interest in deterring aggressor states.

Failure to solve this problem also bolsters the false notion that ethnic conflicts are

unsolvable and that their use as a pretext for international aggression is acceptable. However, over the past decade in Northern Ireland, in the Middle East, and in the former Yugoslavia, have proven that the international community, led by the United States, can and should negotiate and work for peace and an end to ethnic division and conflict.

Late last year, I urged President Clinton to get personally involved in resolving the Cyprus conflict by sending a special envoy, as he did in the Middle East and Northern Ireland. This past summer, I also asked the new Turkish Prime Minister to accept such an offer. I am extremely gratified by recent reports that these events have indeed taken place.

During their recent talks in Washington, Prime Minister Ecevit accepted President Clinton's offer to dispatch a special envoy to work toward a settlement of this quarter-century-old dispute. Indeed, special envoy Al Moses has already been appointed and soon will be beginning his work in this troubled region.

Again, I applaud the leadership of both President Clinton and Prime Minister Ecevit. The time has come for all efforts to be dedicated to resolving the abhorrent injustice of the division of Cyprus. We must all now redouble our efforts to bring peace and justice to the Mediterranean.

#### IN HONOR OF THE TEMPLE-TIFEREH ISRAEL ON THEIR 150TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

#### HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 12, 1999*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 150th anniversary of The Temple-Tifereth Israel in Cleveland, OH. The Temple begins its year long celebration on Friday, October 15, 1999 with a Shabbat service and reception. This surely will be a historic occasion for the Temple members.

Just 11 years after the first Jewish settlers came to Cleveland, The Temple-Tifereth Israel was founded. In the past 150 years The Temple has been a cornerstone of the Jewish community in the Greater Cleveland Area. Rabbis with extraordinary vision and leadership and members with great commitment and activism have guided The Temple throughout its 150 years. The Temple has developed a flourishing religious school, passing on the traditions of the study of Torah and mitzvah to countless children, and currently boasts a membership of 1,600 families.

Organizations like The Temple-Tifereth Israel must be applauded and recognized for passing on traditions to so many generations of Ohioans. It is not often that organizations can last as long as The Temple, let alone thrive as has been the case for The Temple.

I urge my fellow colleagues to please join me in recognizing the dedication and faith of the families of The Temple-Tifereth Israel as they celebrate 150 years of service in the Greater Cleveland Area.

#### BIPARTISAN CONSENSUS MANAGED CARE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

#### HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 6, 1999*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 2723) to amend title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, title XXVII of the public Health Service Act, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to protect consumers in managed care plans and other health coverage.

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Chairman, I am very pleased that on October 7, 1999, the House of Representatives passed the long-overdue Bipartisan Consensus Managed Care Improvement Act (H.R. 2723) by such a large margin. I truly believe that H.R. 2723 is good, common-sense legislation that will protect the interests of patients in contracts with health insurers. I am attaching a letter signed by representatives of the Kansas Association of Osteopathic Medicine, the Kansas Dental Association, the Kansas Medical Society, the Kansas Pharmacists Association, the Kansas State Nurses Association, the National Association of Social Workers—Kansas Chapter and the Kansas Trial Lawyers Association expressing support for H.R. 2723.

I am a cosponsor of H.R. 2723 and supported passage, although I was very disappointed that the Republican leadership did not allow Representatives Norwood and Dingell to offer an amendment to pay for provisions in the managed care bill. Their amendment would have provided \$7 billion in offsets for revenue losses estimated to result from increased deductions for higher medical premiums. I fully expect the conferees to offset this cost to gain my support for the final bill, and I am encouraged that the President has said that he will not sign the final bill unless it is fully offset.

On October 6, 1999, I opposed final passage of H.R. 2990, the so-called "access" bill. This bill was estimated by the Joint Committee on Taxation to cost \$48.7 billion over 10 years with not offsets. Sponsors of H.R. 2990 claim that it will be paid for out of the projected budget surplus, which is based upon the assumption that Congress will abide by the spending caps enacted in the 1997 budget agreement. The Congressional Budget Office, however, has estimated that Congress has already voted to increase spending by at least \$30 billion over the caps for fiscal year 2000, which will require tapping into the Social Security Trust Fund. I voted against H.R. 2990 because I made a commitment not to spend one penny of the Social Security surplus.

Let me make one thing clear—I do not believe that legislation to protect patients and efforts to make health care more accessible are mutually exclusive. As a member of the Small Business Committee, I am working hard to expand health coverage to the 43 million Americans who lack it, since more than 60% of the uninsured have one thing in common—they are either self-employed, or their primary breadwinner is employed by a small business that cannot afford to provide health benefits.

To this end, I am a cosponsor of H.R. 1496, the Small Business Access and Choice for Entrepreneurs Act. This legislation would do two things: 1) Offer immediate 100% health insurance deductibility for the self-employed; and 2) strengthen and expand Association Health Plans (AHPs) for small business owners. AHPs would allow small businesses and the self-employed to join together to obtain the same economics of scale, purchasing clout, and administrative efficiencies from which large health insurance purchasers currently benefit. AHPs will give small employers the ability to design more affordable benefit options, offer workers more choices, and promote greater competition in the health insurance market.

I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues to ensure adequate patient protections and access to health care for all Americans.

KANSAS STATE NURSES ASSOCIATION  
October 5, 1999.

Congressman DENNIS MOORE,  
Cannon House Office Building, Washington,  
DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN MOORE: On behalf of organizations concerned about health care in our state, we are writing to ask your support of the bipartisan Consensus Managed Care Improvement Act (HR 2723) by Charlie Norwood and others.

It is our understanding that this important legislation will be up for consideration the week of October 4. We ask that you support this legislation because it provides the best patient protection by addressing these important elements:

- Allows patients to obtain the medical care they need
- Protects nurses, physicians and other health care professionals who advocate for their patients
- Holds health care plans accountable by removing the ERISA preemption
- Has a strong external review component
- Determines "medical necessity" according to generally accepted standards of medical practice by a prudent physician
- Prohibits gag clauses and practices
- Provides accurate disclosure of costs and benefits

Kansans, just like the majority of Americans, want strong patient protections from managed care. H.R. 2723 represents your best opportunity to provide these protections. Please don't vary from this approach.

Thank you,

Respectfully Submitted,

CHIP WHEELAN,  
Kansas Association of Osteopathic  
Medicine.

KEVIN ROBERTSON,  
Kansas Dental Association.

JERRY SLAUGHTER,  
Kansas Medical Society.

BOB WILLIAMS,  
Kansas Pharmacists Association.

TERRI ROBERTS,  
Kansas State Nurses Association.

SKY WESTERLUND,  
National Association of Social Workers,  
Kansas Chapter.

TERRY HUMPHREY,  
Kansas Trial Lawyers Association.

## TRIBUTE TO GREG MAJORS, A DEDICATED INDIVIDUAL

### HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 12, 1999*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I take a moment to recognize Greg Majors who has routinely gone above and beyond the usual duties to make his business and community a better place. He has recently been awarded the 1999 Sam Walton Business Leader Award, which honors local business people who best exemplify the principles of Wal Mart founder, Sam Walton.

Greg Majors is a driven man who has many positive ideas for change and improvement. He is involved in many organizations which are both business and community oriented. For the past nineteen years he has been with Norwest Banks. The last eight he has spent in Montrose as manager of Business Banking. There he is revered among his employees as an honest and likeable man.

In addition, Greg has served as director of MEDC for the past four years, two of which he served as president. He has also been the director of the Montrose Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees for the past three years. As if the aforementioned activities are not enough for one man, Greg also serves on the board of trustees of the Montrose United Methodist Church and for the past six years he has been an active member of the Rotary Club.

Mr. Speaker, as you can see, Greg Majors is a valuable asset to the community of Montrose. So, it is with this that I say thank you to this man on behalf of the people of Western Colorado for his dedicated service and I wish him well in all his future endeavors.

## TRIBUTE TO DEPUTY SHERIFF ERIC ANDREW THACH

### HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 12, 1999*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague Congresswoman MARY BONO, with a heavy heart to pay tribute to a fallen deputy sheriff from Sun City, California. Deputy Sheriff Eric Andrew Thach died Friday in the line of duty for his Riverside County community. We send our condolences and prayers to his family, neighbors and the community.

Eric Thach was 34 years of age and employed with the Riverside County Sheriff's Department for three years, since September 1996. He leaves behind his young wife, Evelyn, and daughter, Shana. He also leaves behind neighbors and a community that will miss his constant self-sacrifice, generosity and quiet demeanor. And, now those left behind must pull together to support and strengthen each other during the coming months and years as they heal.

"Deputy Sheriff Eric Thach lived his life with strength and courage. He was a good man, taken from us too soon . . . He will live on in our memory and in the many respects paid to him by the community," stated Riverside County Sheriff Larry D. Smith.

Eric Thach's sacrifice will be further remembered as his name is engraved next to the names of three fellow officers, also felled in the line of duty. The marker sits outside the Riverside County Sheriff's Department as a reminder to us all of the selfless duty for law enforcement officers assume as they protect the people of Riverside County—a sacrifice that we often take for granted. As Madam de Stael once said, "We understand death for the first time when he puts his hand upon the one whom we love."

The National Law Enforcement Officer Memorial, though, says it the best, that "it is not how these officers died that made them heroes, it is how they lived." Many of us can not truly understand the latent danger associated with the day to day routines of our law enforcement officers. They put themselves in the line of danger everyday as they stop a vehicle, respond to an incident or a suspicious circumstances—like Deputy Thach. The danger and violence they face day in and day out is very real and it is times like these—sadly—that make us stop and honor our law enforcement officers. We hope that they be given such honor, respect and thanks always—not only when life's fragile nature is revealed. Deputy Eric Thach lived his life with this constantly in the forefront and his memory can be best served by us all doing the same.

Mr. Speaker, we ask that you and our colleagues join us today to remember this fine deputy. On behalf of the residents of Riverside County, we extend our prayers and most heartfelt sympathy to his family and loved ones.

## BIPARTISAN CONSENSUS MAN- AGED CARE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

### HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 7, 1999*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2723) to amend title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to protect consumers in managed care plans and other health coverage.

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to share with my colleagues the stories of families in my District who have needlessly suffered in the absence of a real Patients' Bill of Rights.

I want to share with you a story that happened to one of my constituents in what is believed to be the first real brittle bone disease case in Orange County that has gone to trial.

Imagine this man's horror when his son was taken away and given to Child Protective Services because of alleged child abuse. This child was not abused, the child had an incurable disease that was mis-diagnosed.

It is unfathomable to me that the system, which is here to protect patients, would use outdated methods to diagnose this disease, have the patient suffer and not have Patient Protection Legislation for the worst case scenario to safeguard them from medical incompetency.

Since I came to Congress, I have listened closely to the managed care reform debate. I have also read the newspapers, seen the polls, and continue to hear the horror stories.

This past weekend, I did what every member of Congress should be doing; I heard from my constituents.

I learned that my constituents do want reform and do want some type of "Patients' Bill of Rights." They want Congress to initiate reform and to keep the interest of the patients in mind.

My constituents believe that HMO's are the future of healthcare, but they want to make sure that care is put above profits.

The Democratic Patients' Bill of Rights returns medical decisions back to America's families and their doctors. It is based on proposals endorsed by America's family doctors.

Any bill we pass is going to affect each one of my constituents, millions of Americans, and thousands of Orange County residents. But only the Democratic bill will cover all 161 million Americans with private insurance.

The American public cannot continue to afford the absence of Managed Care Reform. But the worst thing we could do is pass legislation that puts consumers in a worse situation than they are today.

That is exactly what the Republican piecemeal managed care legislation would do. The Republican proposal is a minimalist bill that stops short of offering real Patient Protection Legislation.

We need to pass Managed Care protection legislation and we need to pass it in this Congress.

HONORING JOHN BARONE AS HE IS  
NAMED WEST HAVEN ITALIAN-  
AMERICAN OF THE YEAR

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 12, 1999*

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to stand today to join with the community of West Haven, CT, as they honor my dear friend, John Barone, as Italian-American of the Year.

This weekend is special to Italian-Americans across the Nation. We join together to commemorate the historic voyage of Christoforo Colombo and celebrate the strength of our heritage. Colombo's determination, hard work, and courage led the way across the seas for millions to follow. These immigrants—our parents and grandparents—had little more than hope and determination, yet they built the strong, vital communities that have become the backbone of Connecticut and our great Nation. Each year, the West Haven community honors a member who has demonstrated this same leadership and courage. This year, that man is John Barone.

John has been a driving force in the West Haven community since he and his wife, Ann, first made their home here 48 years ago. John illustrates the vital difference an individual can make in a community. Through his years of dedication to the Italian-American Club and his unfailing efforts to improve the quality of life for the families of West Haven, John has always endeavored to help his neighbors in any way that he could. With his ever-present cigar,

and accompanying smile, John's warmth and compassion have become a true source of inspiration and comfort to our community.

John has spent his life preserving and promoting the strong values of Italian-Americans—hard work, family and neighbors, and the importance of keeping our traditions and heritage alive. Last year, I had the opportunity to join family, friends, and over 100 community members who gathered to dedicate the West Haven Beach Bocce courts in his honor. Bocce is a game that combines strategy, skill, and determination. Carrying the true spirit of Italian culture, it is played in Italian-American neighborhoods across the country. John's love of bocce is well-known. His determination to create easy access to the game for the residents of West Haven, and dedication to bringing them together to share and enjoys a game that has its origins in 19th century Italy is truly characteristic of John. Today, these courts provide endless hours of enjoyment for people of all ages from dawn until dusk.

John is an extraordinary individual who has spent his life striving to improve the quality of life for all members of the West Haven community. He is a true friend and I am proud to rise today to recognize his accomplishments and join with family, friends, and the West Haven community as they name him this year's Italian-American of the Year.

IN HONOR OF GREGORY "GQ"  
JOHNSON

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 12, 1999*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I stand today with a heavy heart grieving for Gregory "GQ" Johnson, a nineteen year old resident of Cleveland Ohio. Young Gregory Johnson died of complications of diabetes in September.

Gregory "GQ" Johnson was an exemplary young man. As a member of the City Year Cleveland Public Service Program, he dedicated much of his time and energy to tutoring younger children. Gregory especially liked to work with withdrawn or overly aggressive children. Through his inspiration and devotion, many of the children he helped became more focused on the studies and some even began to confide in him. Gregory Johnson was one who could be trusted and relied on. The time he spent with the children he helped will be remembered and cherished.

Gregory will be greatly missed. My distinguished colleagues, please join me in remembering and honoring Gregory "GQ" Johnson, a very special young man who dedicated his life to teaching others.

A TRIBUTE TO RECENT INDUCT-  
EES TO THE SWIRE COCA-COLA  
MAVERICK HALL OF HONOR

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 12, 1999*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Ron Bell, Bob Engle, Jeff Russell, and Shawn Smith who were all inducted into the

Swire Coca-Cola Mesa State Maverick Hall of Honor last week. These individuals have shown just what can be achieved through hard work and dedication and are most worthy of this coveted distinction. It is with this that I would like to now honor each of these distinguished Mesa State alums.

It is a rare feat to hold a National record for more than a year in any track and field event. Ron Bell held the National record for the javelin throw for forty years. His throw, back in 1959 measured 207 feet, 1½ inches. He did this not with a personal javelin that he had practiced with many times, but one that he borrowed from the opposing team. Bell, who is now sixty years old, has had many athletic achievements in his time ranging from the 1958 Mesa Junior basketball team which was the first to compete in the junior college national tournament to earn a spot on the Brigham Young basketball team.

Bob Engle is a man who has given years of service to his country in the United States Army. His achievements, thereafter, are the stuff of legend. His two year stay at Mesa Junior college had numerous highlights. He was twice named to the Topps district All Star Team, was awarded a spot on the All-Junior College World Series team in 1969, and in 1970 he was an All-Region XVIII selection. After stays on the Baltimore Orioles and the Toronto Blue Jays, he worked his way up the scouting ladder to his current position in the Blue Jays office as senior advisor of baseball operations.

Rarely do you hear of someone being a four-time All American in any sport. Jeff Russell was the only four-time All America athlete at Mesa State College in two sports. He placed fifth in the nation in wrestling in 1988 and third in the nation the following season. More recently Russell has received honors for his work as a police officer. In 1994 he was named American Legion Officer of the Year.

Heralded as the "best basketball player ever at Mesa State College," Shawn Smith led the first Mesa team to go to the NAIA national tournament. Among his many accolades, Smith was named to every all-state team in Colorado and honorable mention All-American. He also led the state in scoring his senior year.

As you can see, Mr. Speaker, these athletes all warrant the highest of honors. I am proud to honor them now and say congratulations for their acceptance into the Swire Coca-Cola Maverick Hall of Honor.

SUPPORTING THE TRANSITION TO  
DEMOCRACY IN INDONESIA, H.  
CON. RES. 195

**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 12, 1999*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to introduce today a Resolution supporting the transition to democracy in Indonesia. Indonesia's highest legislature, the People's Consultative Assembly (MPR), is in the process of choosing the country's next President and Vice President and ultimately setting the course for the founding of a new government. This process will culminate in a little over a week as a result of the first contested election

since independence in 1945. On October 21st, a new President takes the helm of state and a new government will be formed. It is hoped and expected that this process will be free, fair and transparent and result in a reduction in the uncertainty which surrounds the country's political, economic, and social stability.

The MPR must quickly ratify the results of the popular consultation in East Timor and all parties should work closely together to ensure a smooth, peaceful transition of government. I fully support the aspirations of the Indonesian people in embracing democracy and it is my hope that the world's fourth largest country will soon become the world's third largest democracy.

Accordingly, I request that the entire text of H. Con. Res. 195 be inserted at this point in the Record.

#### H. CON. RES. 195

Whereas the Republic of Indonesia is the world's fourth most populous country, has the world's largest Muslim population, and is the second largest country in East Asia;

Whereas a stable and democratic Indonesia is important to regional and American interests;

Whereas on June 7, 1999, elections were held for the Indonesian People's Representative Assembly (DPR), which, despite some irregularities, were deemed to be free, fair, and transparent according to international and domestic observers;

Whereas over 100 million people—more than 90 percent of Indonesia's registered voters—participated in the election, demonstrating the Indonesian people's interest in democratic processes and principles; and

Whereas Indonesia's People's Consultative Assembly (MPR) convened on October 1, 1999, to organize the new government, ratify the results of the August 30, 1999, popular consultation in East Timor, and select the next President and Vice President of Indonesia: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representative (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—*

(1) congratulates the people of Indonesia on carrying out the first free, fair, and transparent national elections in 44 years;

(2) supports the aspirations of the Indonesian people in pursuing democracy;

(3) calls upon all Indonesian leaders, political party members, military personnel, and the general public to respect the outcome of the elections;

(4) calls for the transparent selection of the next President and Vice President as expeditiously as possible under Indonesian law, in order to reduce the impact of continued uncertainty about the country's political, economic, and social stability and to enhance the prospects for the country's economic recovery;

(5) calls upon all parties to work together to assure a smooth transition to a new government; and

(6) calls for the People's Consultative Assembly (MPR) to ratify the results of the popular consultation in East Timor as expeditiously as possible.

#### IN TRIBUTE TO JAZZ GREAT MILT JACKSON

#### HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 12, 1999

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to jazz great, Milt Jackson. Milt Jackson

was a wonderful person and magnificent talent who played the vibraphone in a way that emitted rich, warm sounds like no one else. Milt Jackson was born in Detroit and played many instruments prior to playing the vibraphone. Blessed with the gift of perfect pitch, he originally sang with the Detroit gospel group, the Evangelist Singers. He started playing jazz in high school with the Clarence Ringo and the George Lee Band but his new found jazz career was interrupted by a short stint in the Army. Upon discharge, Mr. Jackson founded his own jazz quartet called the Four Sharps.

Dizzy Gillespie, while in Detroit on a mid-western tour, spotted the quartet in a Detroit bar and promptly asked Mr. Jackson to join his band. By the time Mr. Jackson joined Gillespie's band, he was deeply under the influence of Charlie Parker. Jackson tried to emulate Parker's rhythmic traits and tried to achieve a hornlike quality to his sound. Jackson went on to create a new sound in the 1940's slowing down the motor on his Vibraharp's oscillator by one-third the speed to create a rich vibrato sound very similar to his own voice. Mr. Jackson was also knowledgeable in classical music and was involved in the jam sessions with Miles Davis and Gerry Mulligan which led to the "Birth of the Cool." One of the most significant musical achievements in Jackson's career was his over four decades of work as a member of the Modern Jazz Quartet which was formed in the early 1950's.

Milt always responded positively to my invitations to come and share his significant knowledge and talent at the annual Congressional Black Caucus Foundation jazz issues forum. The jazz issues forum was established to enhance and perpetuate the art form, emphasize cultural heritage, and forge awareness and pride within the African-American community. In 1987, the jazz issue forum in the United States Congress passed House Concurrent Resolution 57 which designates jazz to be "a rare and valuable national American treasure."

He will be missed greatly as Milt Jackson was one of the world's preeminent improvisors in jazz. His special brilliance will be enjoyed by jazz fans for all the ages.

[From the N.Y. Times, Mon., Oct. 11, 1999]

MILT JACKSON, 76, JAZZ VIBRAPHONIST, DIES

(By Ben Ratliff)

Milt Jackson, the jazz vibraphonist who was a member of the Modern Jazz Quartet for 40 years and was one of the premier improvisers in jazz with a special brilliance at playing blues, died on Saturday at St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital in Manhattan. He was 76 and lived in Teaneck, N.J.

The cause was liver cancer, said his daughter, Chyrisse Jackson.

All the best jazz musicians know how to take their time, and Mr. Jackson was no different. Originally a singer in a Detroit gospel quartet, he created a new sound in the 1940's by slowing down the motor on his Deagan Vibraharp's oscillator to a third of the speed of Lionel Hampton's; a result, when he chose to let a sustained note ring, was a rich, warm smoky sound, with a vibrato that approximated his own singing.

"He came closer than anyone else on the instrument to making it sound like the human voice," said the young vibraphonist Stefon Harris yesterday. "It's a collection of metal and iron, and we don't have the ability to bend notes and make vocal inflections like a saxophone. But Milt played the instrument in the most organic way possible—with

a warm, rich sound. He set a precedent that this instrument can speak beautiful things, and that it's not just percussive."

Mr. Jackson, who was born in Detroit, had become an impressively broad musician by the middle of his teen-age years. He had perfect pitch, and he began teaching himself guitar at the age of 7, started piano lessons at 11 and in high school played five instruments: drums, tympani, violin, guitar and xylophone; he also sang in the choir. By the age of 16, he had picked up the vibraphone as well, encouraged by a music teacher, and sang tenor in a popular gospel quartet called the Evangelist Singers as well as beginning his jazz career, playing vibraphone with Clarence Ringo and the George E. Lee band.

Out of high school, he almost joined Earl Hines's big band, but his draft notice intervened. In 1944, back in Detroit after two years of overseas military service, he set up a jazz quartet called the Four Sharps. (He admitted that he got his nickname, Bags, from the temporary furrows under his eyes incurred by a drinking binge after his release from the Army.) Dizzy Gillespie saw the quartet at a Detroit bar on a swing through the Midwest, and called upon Mr. Jackson in 1945 to join his band in New York.

Mr. Jackson's style, then and later, came from Charlie Parker, rather than Mr. Hampton, his most prominent precursor on the instrument; he not only tried to achieve a hornlike legato with his mallets, but he adopted many of Parker's rhythmic traits as well. He was the first bona fide bebop musician on the vibraphone, and became one of the prides of Gillespie's own band. Gillespie also brought him to Los Angeles to fill out his sextet at Billy Berg's club, hedging against the probability that Parker, who was in the band and at the low point of his heroin addiction, would fail to show up.

Back in New York in 1946, Mr. Jackson recorded some of bebop's classics with Gillespie's orchestra—"A Night in Tunisia," "Anthropology" and "Two Bass Hit." Mr. Jackson, the pianist John Lewis, the bassist Ray Brown and the drummer Kenny Clarke were the rhythm section of Gillespie's band. "Dizzy had a lot of high parts for the brass in that group," remembered Mr. Brown. "So he said, 'I have to give these guys' lips a little rest during concerts, and while they're resting, you should play something.'" The development of this rhythm section's relationship led to some recordings for Gillespie's own label, Dee Gee, by a new band known as the Milt Jackson Quartet.

Mr. Jackson left Gillespie and came back to him again for a period in the early 1950's. And in 1951, with Thelonious Monk, he made recordings that would further the idiom again, weaving his linear improvisations around Monk's abrupt, jagged gestures on pieces including "Criss Cross" and "Straight, No Chaser."

Mr. Lewis, the pianist, began to have ideas about forming a new group, one that would go beyond the notion of soloists with a rhythm section. He had an extensive knowledge of classical music, had been involved in the sessions with Miles Davis and Gerry Mulligan that would become known as "Birth of the Cool," and he envisioned a more deliberately formal feeling for a small band. In 1952 the Modern Jazz Quartet began, with Clark as drummer and Percy Heath as bassist. Connie Kay replaced Clarke in 1955. After a while, Mr. Lewis became the group's musical director.

The group wore tailored suits and practiced every aspect of their public presentation, from walking on stage to making introductions to the powerfully subdued arrangements in their playing. They wanted to bring back to jazz the sense of high bearing it had been losing as the popularity of the

big bands was slipping and jazz became more of a music predicated on the casual jam-session. Through two decades of immaculately conceived and recorded albums on Atlantic Records, beginning in 1956, their vision was borne out. Initially, they found that audiences were somewhat startled by the authority of their quietness; eventually the group would be one of the few jazz bands embraced by an audience much wider than jazz fans.

Mr. Lewis economized, playing small chords and creating a light but sturdy framework for the music, and Mr. Jackson was the expansive foil, letting his tempos crest and fall, luxuriating in the passing tones and quick, curled runs of bebop. It was often supposed that he grew frustrated with his role in

the band; in a recent interview Mr. Jackson said he felt that Mr. Lewis suppressed the group's sense of swing. In 1974 he left, dissolving the band until it reunited for the first of several tours in the 1980's. Mr. Kay died in 1994, and the Modern Jazz Quartet, with Mickey Roker sitting in for him, gave its last performance the following year.

Besides being widely acknowledged as one of the music's greatest improvisers, Mr. Jackson wrote a lot of music—most famously the blues pieces “Bags’ Groove,” “Bluesology” and “The Cylinder.” He recorded widely. He made small-group and orchestral records in the early 1960's, collaboration albums with John Coltrane and Ray Charles, and a large number of records on

the Pablo label during the 1970's and 1980's with Mr. Brown on bass, as well as Gillespie, Count Basie, Oscar Peterson and others. In 1992 he began a series of albums produced by Quincy Jones for the Qwest label; the most recent, from this year, was “Explosive!,” recorded with the Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra. The last collaboration with Mr. Brown and Mr. Peterson, “The Very Tall Band,” was issued this year by Telarc.

In addition to his daughter, of Fort Lee, N.J., he is survived by his wife, Sandra, of Teaneck, and three brothers: Alvin, of Queens, and Wilbur and James, both of Detroit.